



Free Beginner : *Carnival Guide*

HOW TO PLAN FOR CARNIVAL A BEGINNER'S GUIDE

Dreaming of feathers, paint, sun and soca – but no clue where to start? This quick guide gives you the basics so you can start planning your first carnival trip without stressing your head.

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Basic Steps

1. CHOOSE YOUR CARNIVAL

- Pick a destination: Trinidad, Barbados, Jamaica, Grenada, Notting Hill, Toronto, Miami and more.
- Decide which year you're aiming for.
- Check rough dates, weather and public holidays so you know when to book time off.

2. SET A SIMPLE BUDGET

Before you fall in love with a costume, decide roughly how much you can spend in total. Think about:

- Flights
- Accommodation
- Costume (mas band)
- Fetes (parties)
- Transport
- Food & drinks
- Extra outfits and accessories

You don't need exact numbers yet – just a comfort range (for example: "I can do around £1.5k–£2k total").

3. BOOK THE BIG THINGS FIRST

Once you know where and when:

- Look at flights and start tracking prices early.
- Shortlist safe areas and types of stays (hotel, guesthouse or apartment).
- Start researching mas bands – check past photos, reviews, what is included (drinks, food, security, shuttles).

If a band or fete looks confusing, has bad reviews or is rude when you ask questions – treat that as a red flag.

4. DECIDE YOUR FETE STYLE

You don't have to go every single party.

Ask yourself:

- Do I prefer day fetes, night fetes, or a mix?
- All-inclusive (food and drink included) or cooler fetes (bring your own bottle)?
- How many parties can I realistically enjoy before I'm exhausted?

For a first carnival, starting with 3–5 fetes is usually more than enough.

5. ROAD DAY ESSENTIALS CHECKLIST

For carnival day itself, you'll thank yourself if you pack:

- ID and secure crossbody bag or pouch
- Sunscreen (high SPF)
- Portable fan
- Electrolyte or rehydration sachets
- Blister plasters and painkillers
- Wipes and tissues
- Phone pouch or waterproof case
- Cash and card

COMFORT = MORE FUN

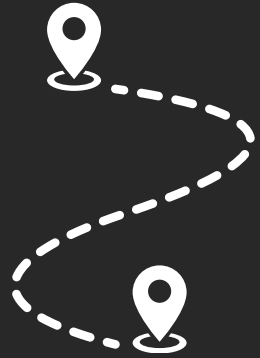
Wear shoes you've already broken in. Try on your costume before the day if you can, and adjust straps or add support so you feel secure and comfortable.

READY TO GO DEEPER?

If you want timelines, detailed packing lists, realistic budgets and sample itineraries so you know exactly what to do month by month, check out the Premium Carnival Beginners Guide from TriniTravels.

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trinitravels.co.uk

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Cranival Calendars
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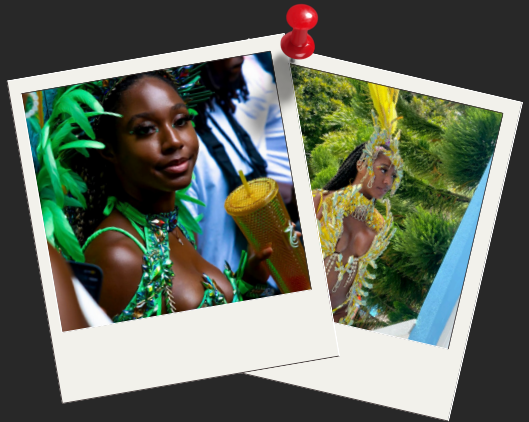
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Contact - trinitravels.co.uk